**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A method of making a tire formed with a continuous tread pattern in a segmented mold, said method comprising:

providing a first number of matrix segments;

providing a second larger number of inserts which cannot be divided equally into the first number, each insert being formed with ribbing whereby the inserts will collectively form said continuous tread pattern in said tire;

temporarily joining the matrix segments together in a circular array;

positioning a plurality of inserts in abutting relationship around the periphery of the joined together matrix segments;

removing any inserts which bridge the juncture of the abutting matrix segments to define empty spaces at such junctures;

separating the matrix segments;

attaching an insert to the adjoining edge portions of the matrix sections to fill said spaces, with each such insert overlapping the side edges of its respective matrix segment;

cutting off the overhanging portion of the inserts even with the side edges of their respective matrix segments, with the ends of the incremental portion of the tread pattern of the inserts disposed in matching relationship whereby such incremental portions collectively define the continuous tread pattern;

positioning the matrix segments within said mold in a circumferential array;

introducing uncured rubber into the mold with such uncured rubber flowing into said ribbing;

curing the rubber with said ribbing forming the continuous tread pattern in said tire; and

removing the cured tire from the mold.

2. A method as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the overhanging portions of the inserts are ground flush with the side edges of their respective matrix segments after such inserts have been cut off such matrix segments.

3. A method as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the matrix segments are temporarily secured together by plug welding.

4. A method as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the overhanging portions of the inserts are cut off by a laser cutter.

5. A method as set forth in Claim 2 wherein the matrix segments are temporarily secured together by plug welding.

6. A method as set forth in Claim 2, wherein the overhanging portions of the inserts are cut off by a laser cutter..

7. A method as set forth in Claim 2, wherein the matrix segments are temporarily secured together by plug welding and wherein the overhanging portions of the inserts are cut off by a laser cutter.